

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 00587 221655Z

12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8751

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

UNCLAS QUITO 0587

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PN, EC

SUBJECT: ARRIVAL OF 10 PANAMANIAN DEPORTEES IN GUAYAQUIL

1. RECIPROCITY IN HANDLING ONE'S POLITICAL OPPONENTS GOT A GENTLE NUDGE ON JAN. 20 WITH THE ARRIVAL IN GUAYAQUIL, ABOARD A PANAMANIAN AIR FORCE DC-3, OF 10 PANAMANIAN DEPORTEES.

2. ABOARD, AS REPORTED IN GUAYAQUIL'S NEWSPAPERS, WERE:
IVAN ROBLES, A LAWYER AND MEMBER OF THE MOVEMENT OF INDEPENDENT LAWYERS; FOUNDER OF THE PANAMANIAN SOCIALIST PARTY;
JAIME AIZPURUA, FARMER AND RANCHER, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF RICE PRODUCERS OF CHIRIQUI AND PRESIDENT OF THE CIVIC DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE;
PORFIRIO SAMUDIO, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RANCHERS;
ALBERTO QUIROZ GUARDIA, OWNER OF RADIO STATION "IMPACTO";
GILBERTO ALVAREZ, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RANCHERS;
RUBEN DARIO CARLES, ECONOMIST, BANKER, PROFESSOR, FORMER GOP CABINET MINISTER;
WINSTON ROBLES, UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR;
DARIO SANTAMARIA, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE DAVID LIONS CLUB;
ROBERTO EISCHMANN, INDUSTRIALIST, BANKER, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE BUSINESS EXECUTIVES ASSOCIATION;
ANTONIO DOMINGUEZ, BANKER AND BUSINESSMEN, VICE PRESIDENT

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OF THE PANAMA CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

3. ACCORDING TO NEWS REPORTS, THE DEPORTEES WERE MET BY ECUADOREAN OFFICIALS AND PANAMA'S AMBASSADOR TO ECUADOR SAMUEL FABREGA, AND WERE ESCORTED TO GUAYAQUIL'S EL EJECUTIVO HOTEL. THE DEPORTEES RECEIVED NEWSPAPERMEN THERE, EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR ECUADOR'S HOSPITALITY (BUT SAYING THEY HADN'T KNOWN WHERE THEY WERE GOING UNTIL THEY GOT OFF THE PLANE AND SAW THE "WELCOME TO GUAYAQUIL" SIGN). THEY DID NOT ELABORATE ON THE REASONS FOR THEIR EXILE BEYOND SAYING THEY SUPPOSED IT WAS FOR THEIR ANTI-TORRIJOS ATTITUDE; THEY DESCRIBED THEMSELVES AS PRO-DEMOCRATIC AND ANTI-COMMUNIST BUSINESSMEN. IVAN ROBLES LATER TOLD NEWSMEN HE HAD TRIED TO CALL HIS FAMILY (IN PANAMA), BUT WAS CUT OFF THE LINE BY THE PANAMANIAN TELEPHONE OPERATOR.
HEMENWAY

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